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Dated: 9/9/04

Docket No.: 03191/000N086-US0
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Patent Application of:
Christian Rieger et al.**

Application No.: 10/678,736

Art Unit: 3661

Filed: October 2, 2003

Examiner: M. Zanelli

For: METHOD FOR CONTROLLING AN
AUTOMATED CLUTCH

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated August 10, 2004, Applicants respond as follows.

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner contends that the application contains more than one patentably distinct invention and has required restriction between: Group 1: Claims 1-10 and 24-33, drawn to controlling an automated clutch in dependence on an engine rpm-gradient; and Group II, claims 11-23, drawn to modeling a friction value in dependence on clutch temperature.

Applicants respectfully elect Group I, claims 1-10 and 24-33, drawn to controlling an automated clutch in dependence on an engine rpm-gradient. As a result, further prosecution of